

Message Text

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72

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 /025 W

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P 012125Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0562

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 2229

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, AR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR--PAN AM SCHEDULING PROBLEM

REF: A. STATE 059068 AND B. BUENOS AIRES 1965

1. PAN AM (PA) ON MARCH 10 SUBMITTED WINTER SCHEDULES TO DNTAC FOR APPROVAL, TO BE EFFECTIVE APRIL 10. IN ADDITION TO ROUTINE SHIFTS IN TIMING OF FLIGHTS, SCHEDULES ALSO INCLUDE CHANGE OF GAUGE FROM 747 TO 707 AIRCRAFT AT CARACAS. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, PA HAS TEMPORARY AUTHORITY FOR CHANGE OF GAUGE (NOW CONFIRMED IN LETTER TO PA) UNTIL APRIL 17.

2. DNTAC, OR PERHAPS ANOTHER GOA AGENCY CONCERNED (WE SUSPECT FONOFF, AT INSTIGATION OF AIR FORCE) IS APPARENTLY SITTING ON SCHEDULES, PERHPAS WITH THE IDEA THAT THIS WILL GIVE THEM LEVERAGE IN BILATERAL CIVIL AIR TALKS. DELAY COULD CONCEIVABLY BE JUST BUREAUCRATIC INERTIA. (BRANIFF'S LAST SEASONAL SCHEDULE CHANGES WERE APPROVED ABOUT TEN DAYS AFTER BRANIFF PUT THEM INTO EFFECT.)

3. ECON COUNS PHONED RINALDINI (FONOFF) ON APRIL 1 (AFTER DISCUSSING WITH PA REP) AND ASKED HIM TO LOOK URGENTLY INTO MATTER. EMBASSY DID NOT KNOW CAUSES FOR DELAY IN APPROVAL OF PAN AM SCHEDULES, BUT HOPED THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WHICH MIGHT RAISE OBSTACLE TO BILATERAL TALKS. WE UNDERSTOOD GOA MIGHT WISH TO DEAL WITH APPROVAL OF FLIGHT 515/516 IN

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DIFFERENT WAY FROM APPROVAL OF ROUTINE SCHEDULE CHANGES

BUT SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT PA SCHEDULES GENERALLY BEFORE APRIL 9. AFTER LONG DISCOURSE ABOUT PROBLEMS WHICH GOA HAD WITH CARACAS CHANGE OF GAUGE, RINALDINI AGREED TO LOOK INTO SITUATION PROMPTLY.

4. IF EMBASSY DOES NOT RECEIVE SATISFACTORY REPLY WE WILL TELL RINALDINI US NOT PREPARED TO CONTINUE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS UNLESS SUCH MATTERS AS ROUTINE-PA OPERATIONS CAN BE RESOLVED. WE DO NOT THINK IT USEFUL TO ESCALATE OR PRESS TOO HARD FOR THE MOMENT BECAUSE TYPICAL LOCAL SOLUTION WHILE TALKS PROCEEDING WOULD BE TO LET PA OPERATE ALTHOUGH FORMAL APPROVAL NOT GIVEN.
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